



**The Friends of
South Shore
Hospital**

55 Fogg Road, Box 29
South Weymouth
Massachusetts
02190-2455

Tel: (781) 624-8520
Fax: (781) 331-1896

July 10, 2014

Attn: Antitrust Division
Office of Attorney General
One Ashburton Place, 18th Floor
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Attorney General Coakley:

We, the Executive Committee of The Friends of South Shore Hospital, write to express our support for the proposal for South Shore Hospital to join Partners HealthCare.

The Friends is an organization consisting of 2,800 members from across southeastern Massachusetts committed to promoting the Hospital's mission and supporting the growth of health programs that serve our community. Through events, newsletters, and meetings we gain an understanding of priorities and initiatives at South Shore Hospital. Through this engagement, the Friends serves as both a financial contributor to South Shore Hospital as well as the largest link between the Hospital and the community that it serves.

We wrote to you earlier in the year to state that we view the proposed merger with Partners HealthCare as a positive and necessary step in the Hospital's mission to continually improve its service to our region. We write at this juncture in the process to reaffirm our support. With respect for the public process established to consider the evolution of healthcare in Massachusetts, we believe that this agreement constructively addresses concerns raised by other parties while enabling the vision of a more comprehensive system of health care for our region to become a reality.

Sincerely,

The Executive Committee of the Friends of South Shore Hospital

Jacqueline A. MacBean, President

Cathleen F. Foley, Vice President

Alison Edmands, Treasurer

Joan Walker, Secretary

Christine L. Kosinski, Immediate Past President

David Capelle, Board Designee